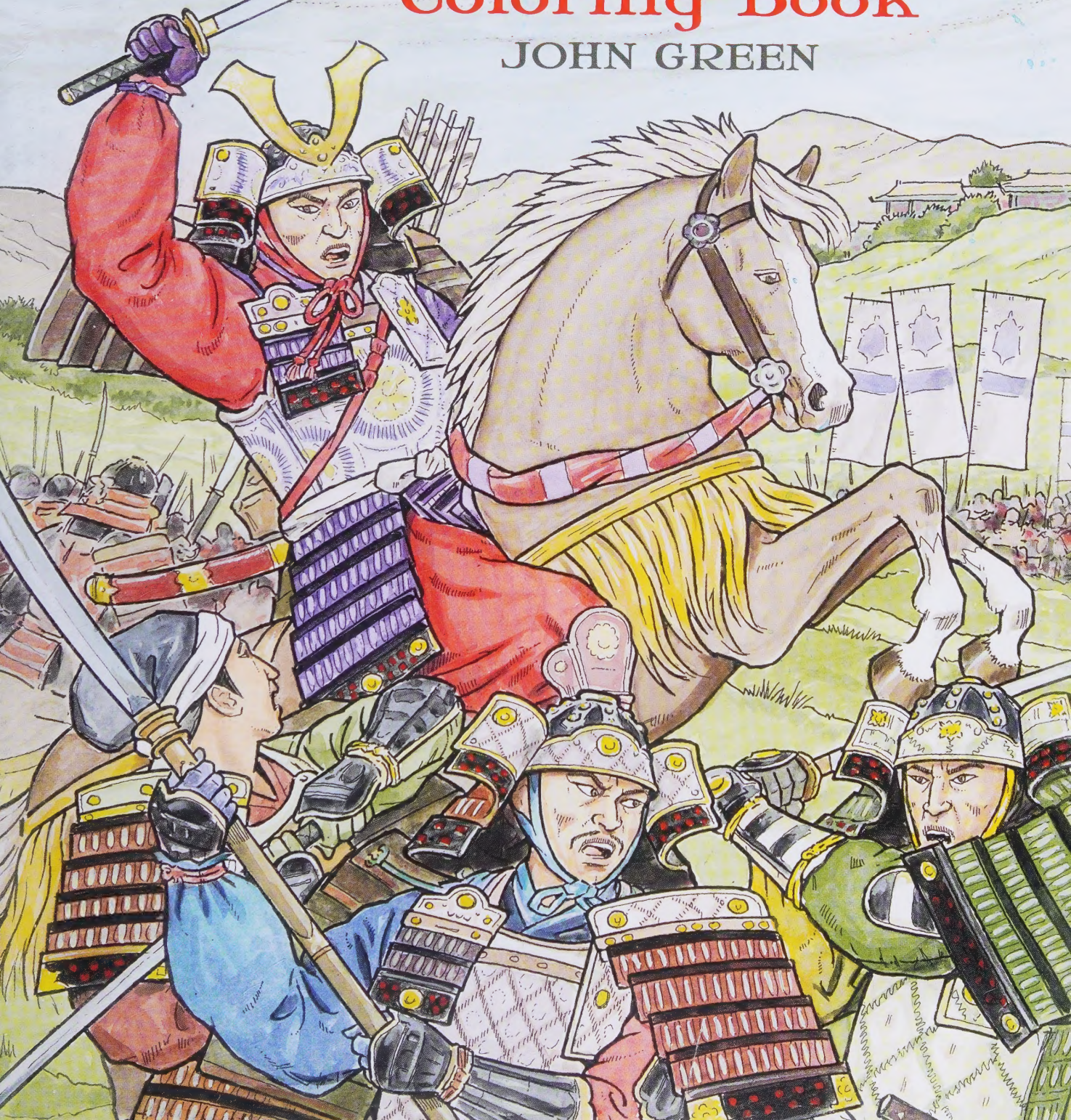


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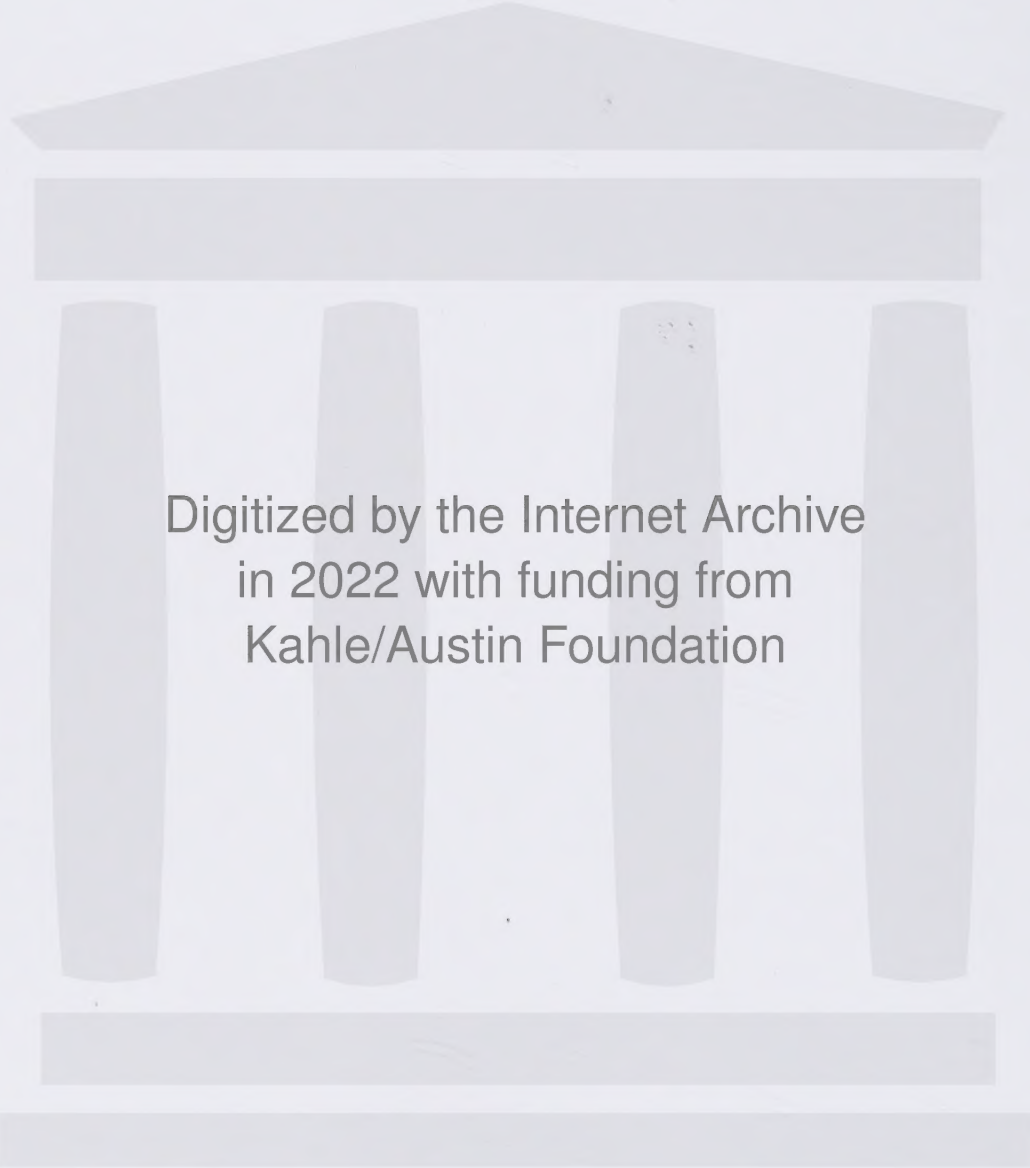
# SAMURAI WARRIORS

## Coloring Book

JOHN GREEN







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# SAMURAI WARRIORS

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John Green



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Mineola, New York

## Note

Samurai were bound by a code of honor called *bushido*. The word is a combination of two Japanese words, *bushi*, meaning *warrior*, and *do*, meaning *the way*. References to some form of the code can be found in Japan's earliest literature. An official version appears in the late Edo Period (which ended in 1868) when feudal Japan enjoyed a period of peace. During this peace, samurai began to commit their bushido code to paper, as they also began to rethink their role in civil society.

Writings about bushido defined the characteristics of an ideal samurai in everyday etiquette as well as in war. The essential functions of a samurai were to both excel in honorable combat and exemplify virtue, sincerity, self-control, and honor even above their own lives. A samurai had to be ready to fight as his master required, but a samurai was not to use his skill frivolously.

As you color or paint the illustrations in this book, some of the greatest warriors and battles in samurai history will come to life.

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### Bibliographical Note

*Samurai Warriors* is a new work, first published by Dover Publications, Inc., in 2008.

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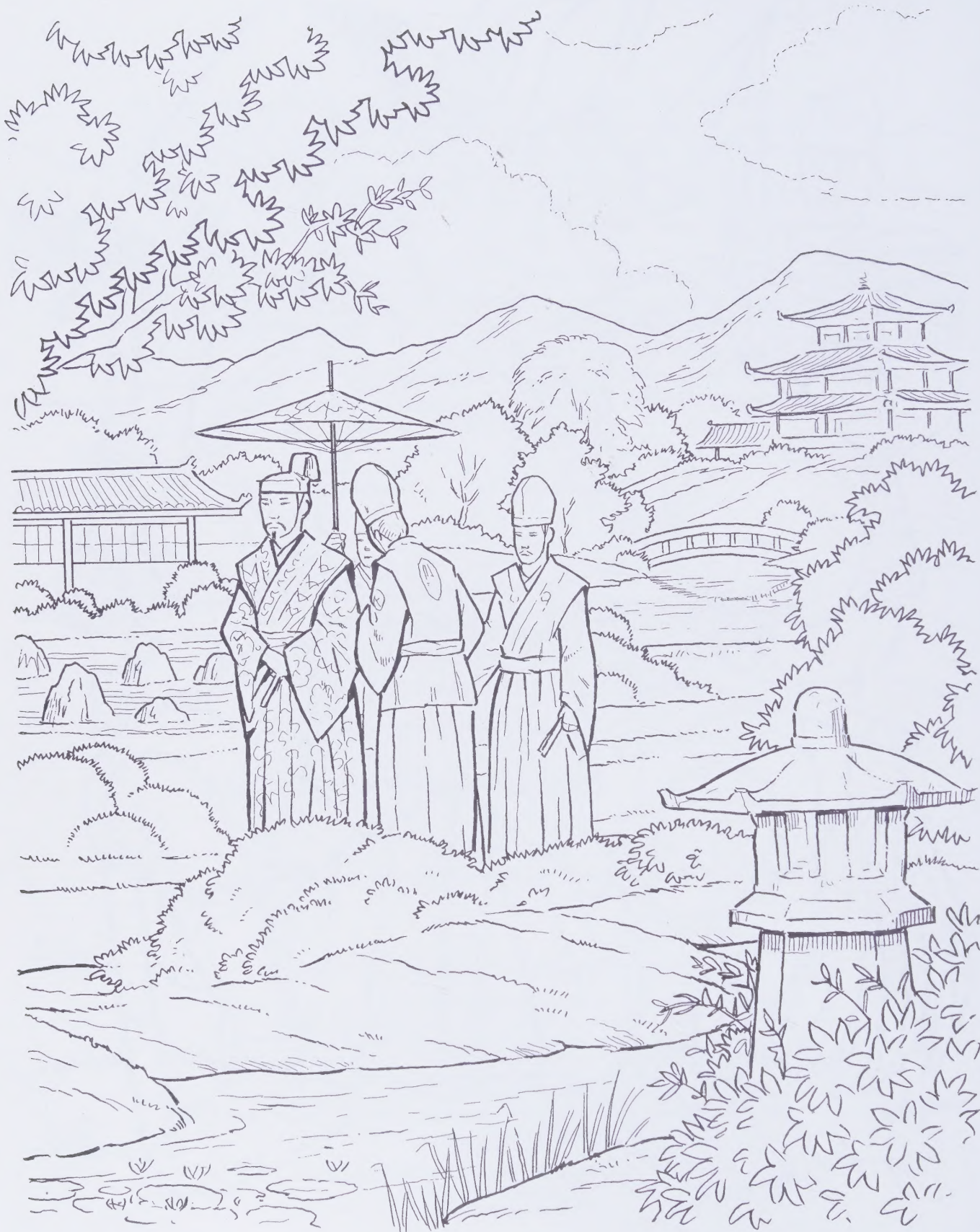


##### 5. Minamoto Yoritomo (1147-99)

Born into the Minamoto family, a powerful military clan of imperial descent, Minamoto Yoritomo became the first *shogun*, top military leader of the country, after seizing

power from the aristocracy. As shogun, he had the right to act independently against any rebel. Minamoto became the practical ruler of Japan.





#### 6. The Emperor in the Palace Gardens, Kyoto

The emperor was a revered figure—nearly a god in the people's eyes. He was a religious leader, but had little political power. The shogun wielded the real power.



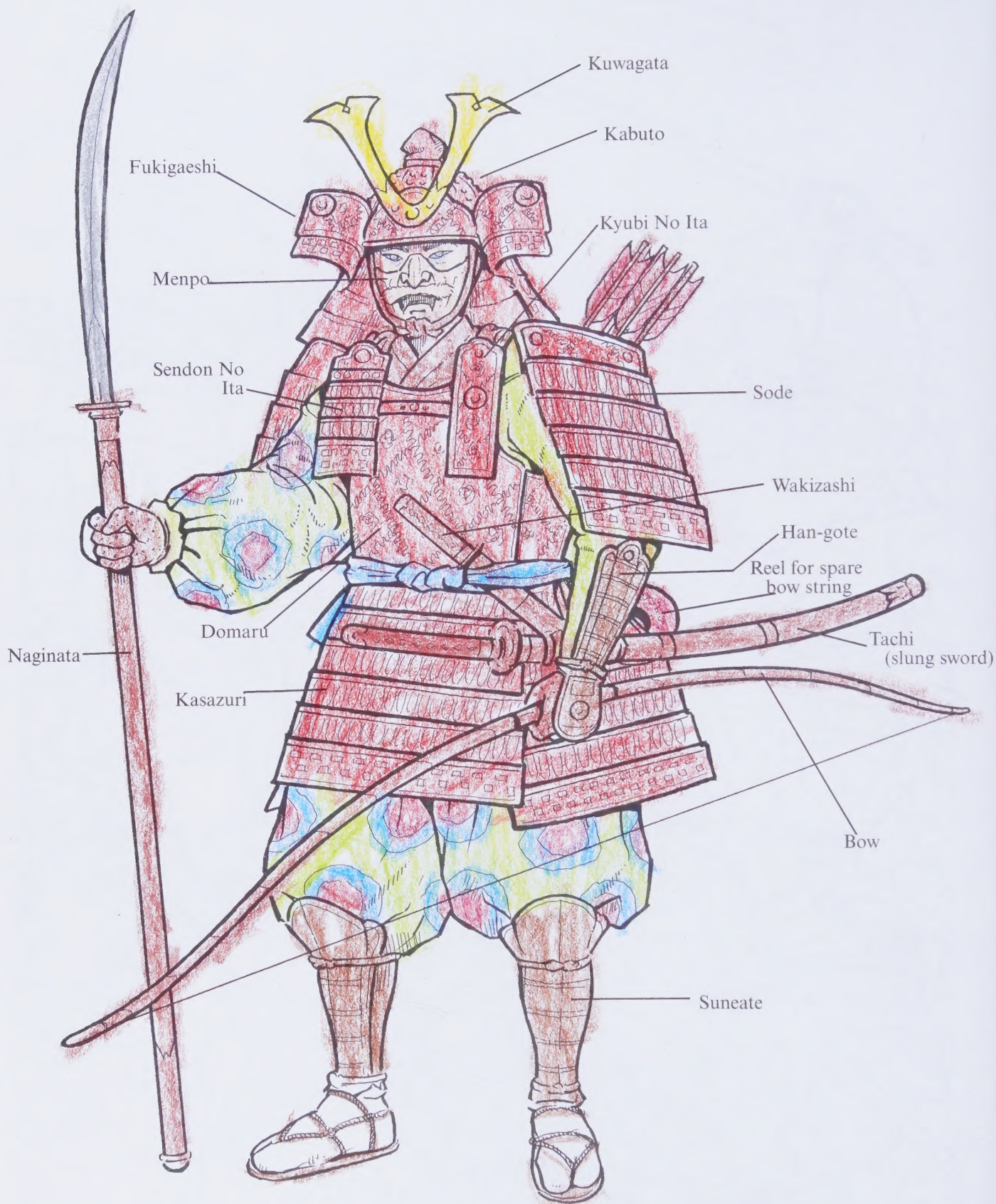


### 7. Gempei Wars, Battle of Muroyama (1183)

The Battle of Muroyama rages between two great samurai clans, the Taira and the Minamoto. This series of battles, which fought for control of the imperial court, became

known as the Gempei Wars. The victors established Minamoto Yoritomo as shogun, reducing the emperor to a symbolic role.



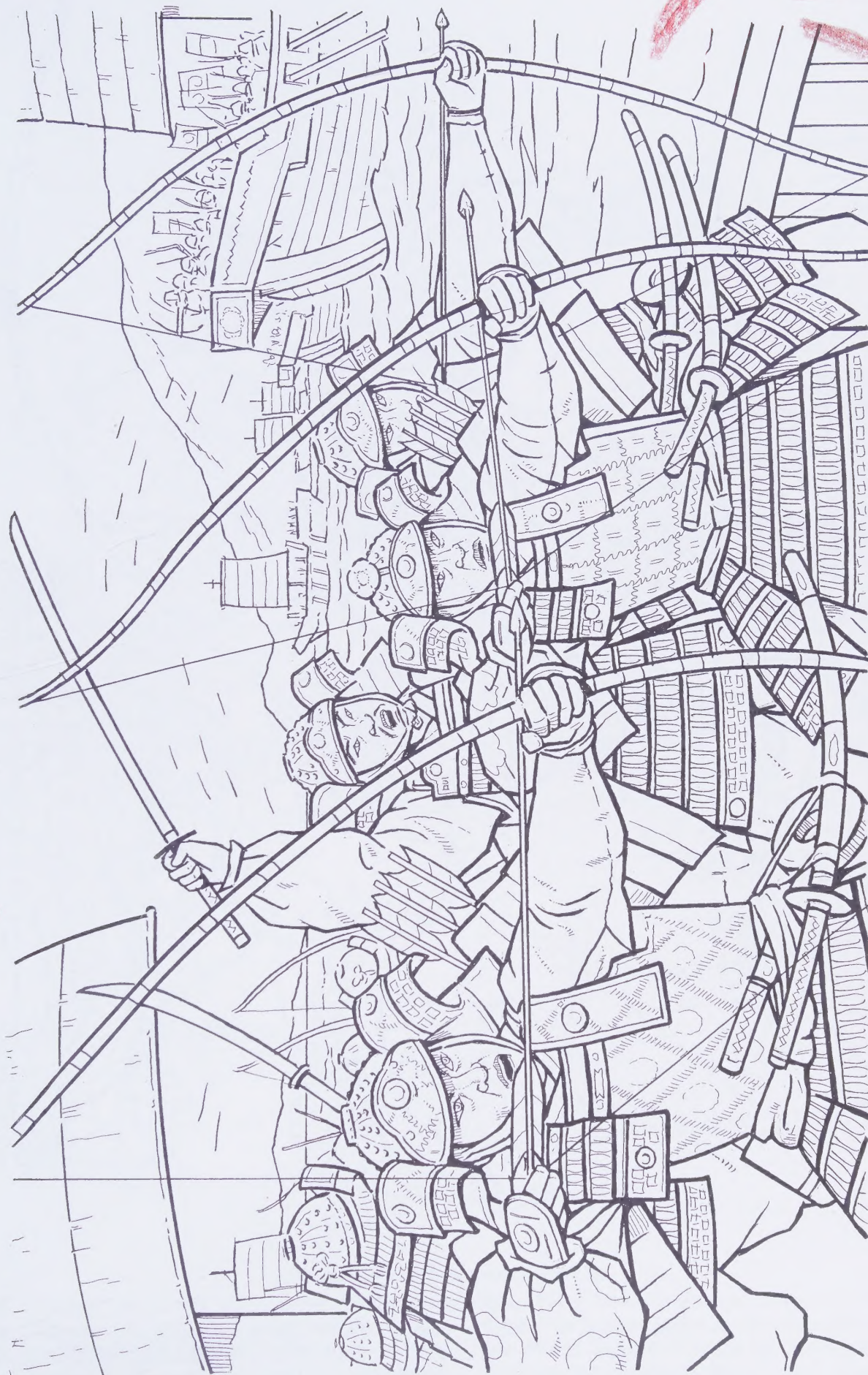


#### 8. Samurai Warrior in Full Armor

The hanging shoulder defenses fulfill the function of the shield, which unlike his European counterpart, the samurai did not carry. Under the helmet is a cap with a hole in it

for the samurai's ponytail. Over the centuries, samurai armor would evolve to accommodate changes in terrain and weaponry.





### 9. Battle of Dannoura (1185)

This sea battle ended the Gempei Wars. The Taira were destroyed, the Minamoto victorious.





#### 10. Female Samurai, Tomoe Gozen

Tomoe Gozen is shown at the battle of Awazu in 1184. Her courage and skill in horseback riding, archery, and sword fighting are legendary. She was well respected by men and fought alongside them. Though female warriors were not

uncommon in Japan at the time, Tomoe Gozen is one of very few females to earn the rank of samurai. She has remained a favorite in Japanese literature and lore to the present day.





### 11. Camp Scene

Attendants assist the samurai commander with his armor because of its weight and complexity. Each piece of armor consisted of a set of small iron plates that were laced

together by leather cord. The strips were tied together horizontally to produce a practically arrow-proof, resilient armor plate.

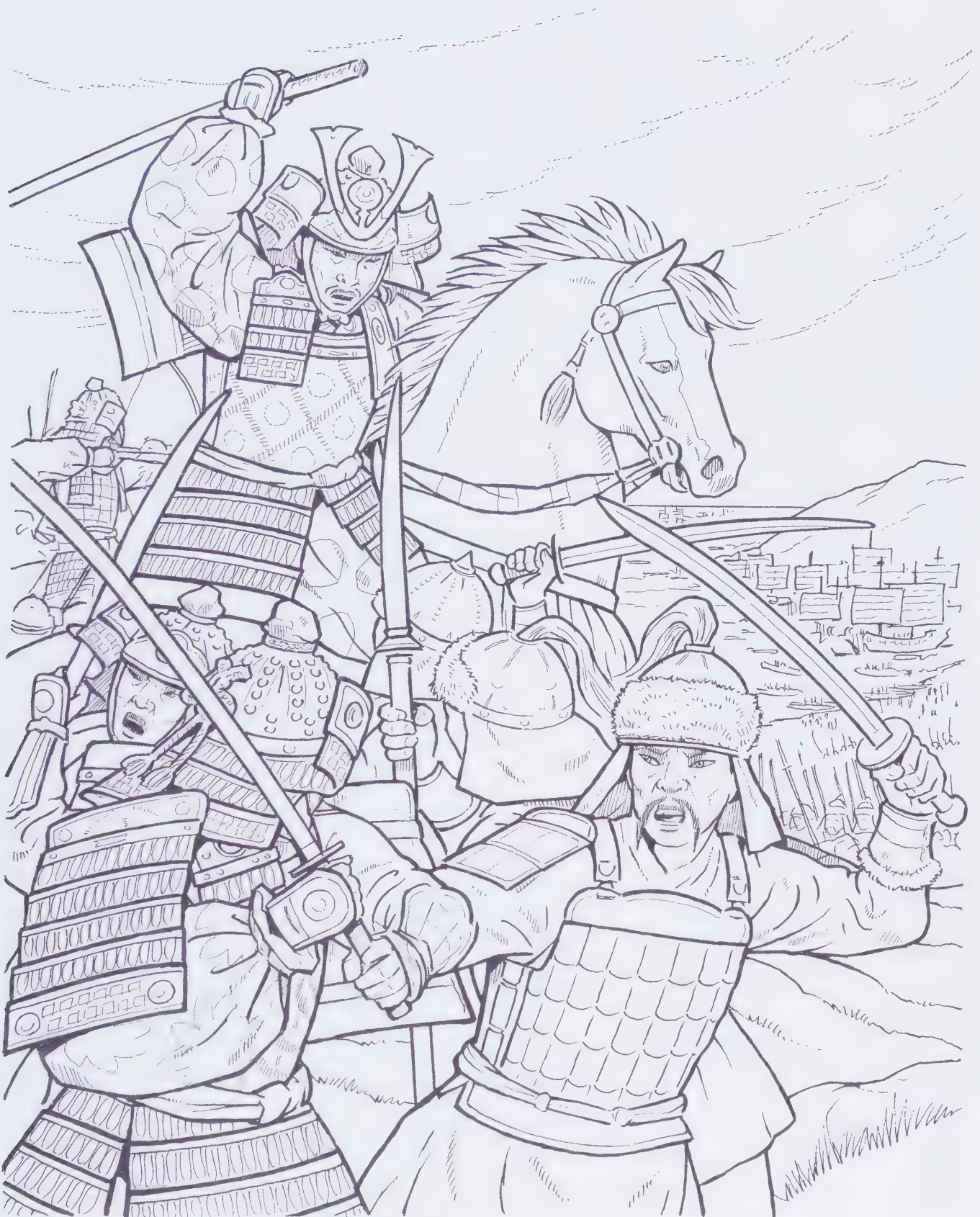




## 12. Minamoto Yoshitsune (1159–89)

Minamoto is one of the most famous samurai of all time. Akira Kurosawa's classic film, *The Men Who Tread on the Tiger's Tail*, dramatizes a legend about Yoshitsune.

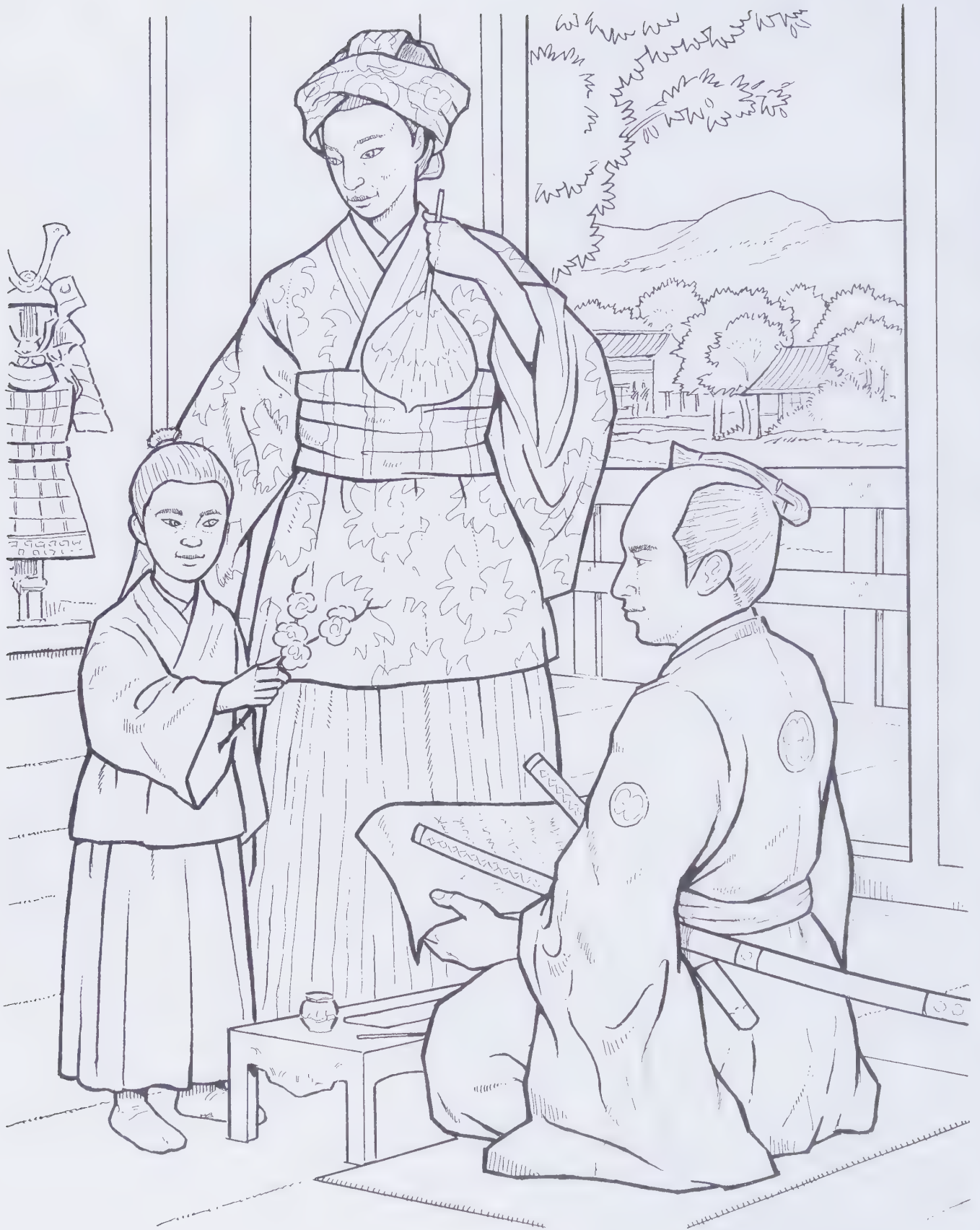




### 13. Mongol Invasions

The Mongols invaded Japan in 1274. They invaded again in 1281.



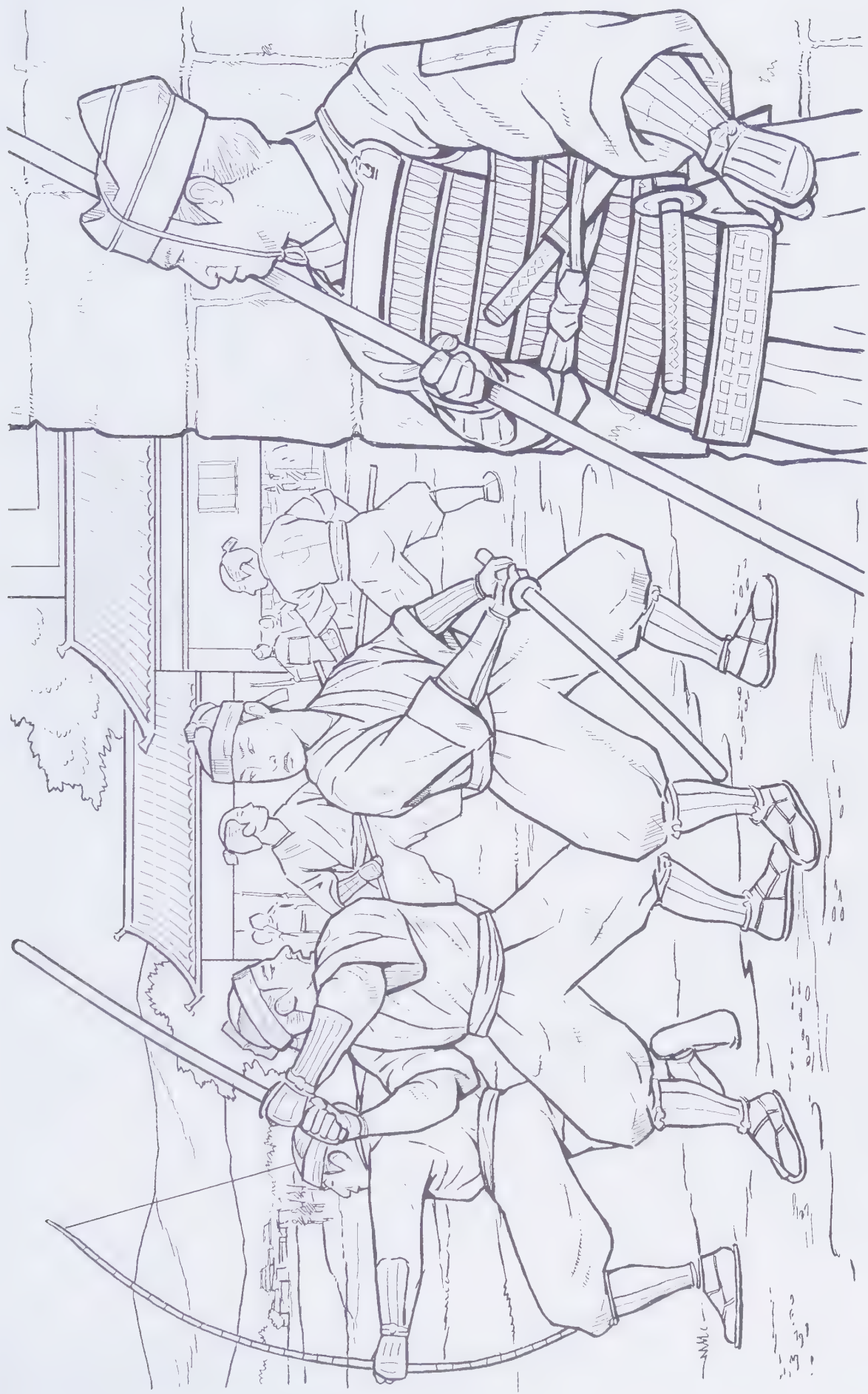


#### 14. Samurai at Home

The child gives a cherry blossom to his father. The cherry blossom was considered an especially important symbol for the samurai because at the height of its beauty, it would fall

to the ground to die. Samurai also had to be willing to sacrifice themselves in their prime. The cherry blossom was evidence that this was the natural way of things.





### 15. Samurai Training Camp

Samurai were trained in martial arts as early as age five. They were expert in hand-to-hand combat and swordsmanship, fighting equally well on foot or mounted on horse.





#### 16. Warrior Monks at Kamakura, 1333

Warring samurai clans, Minamoto and Taira, both tried to obtain the aid of *sohei*, warrior monks, adding the temples' forces to the clans' already mighty armies. They

are shown above at this important battle of the Genko War, in which rebellious forces were subdued by those loyal to the emperor.



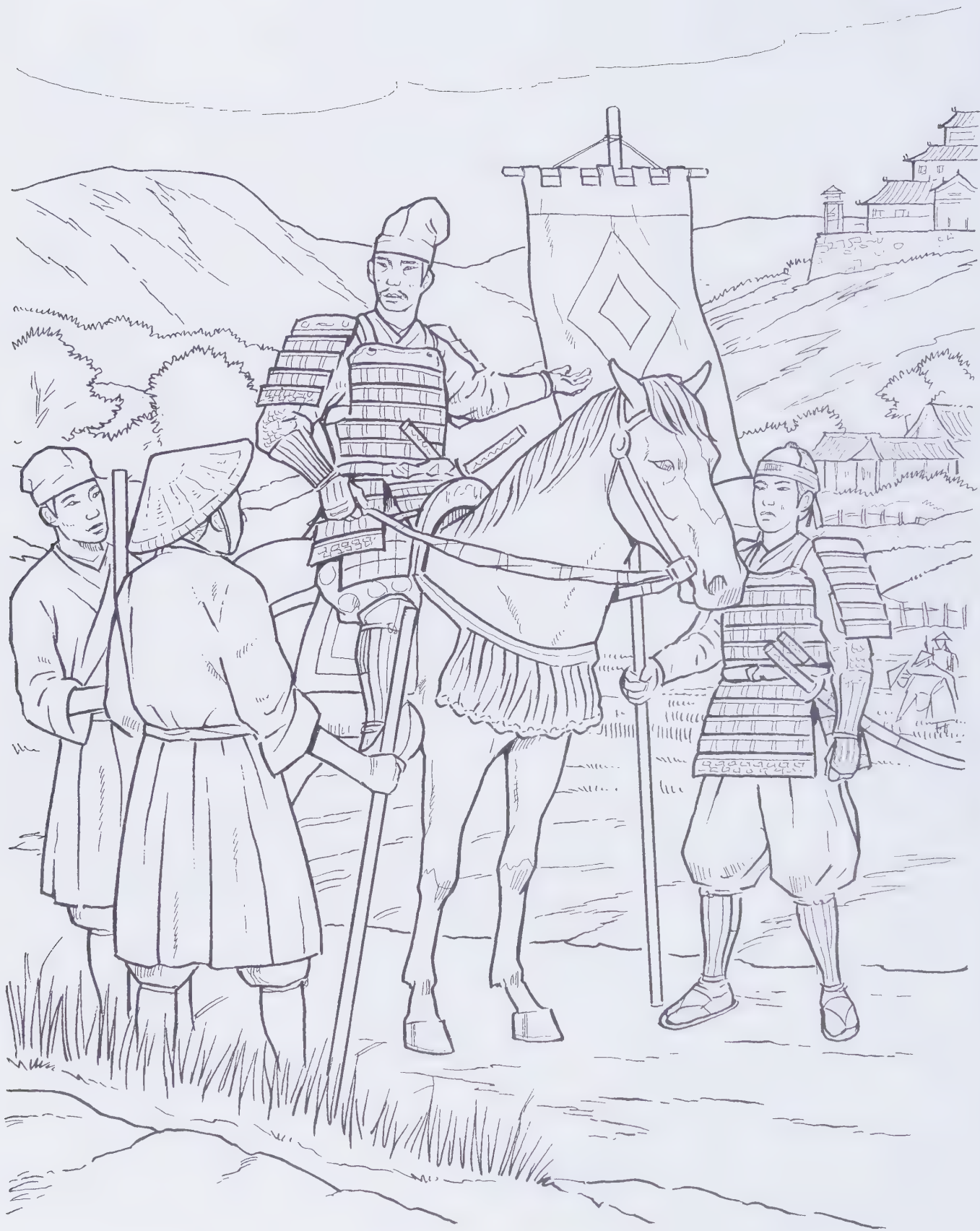


### 17. Onin War (1467–77)

The Onin War initiated the Warring States Period—also known as the Age of War. By 1467, Japan was virtually 260

separate countries. Each of them had a *daimyo*, powerful feudal ruler, and maintained separate armies.





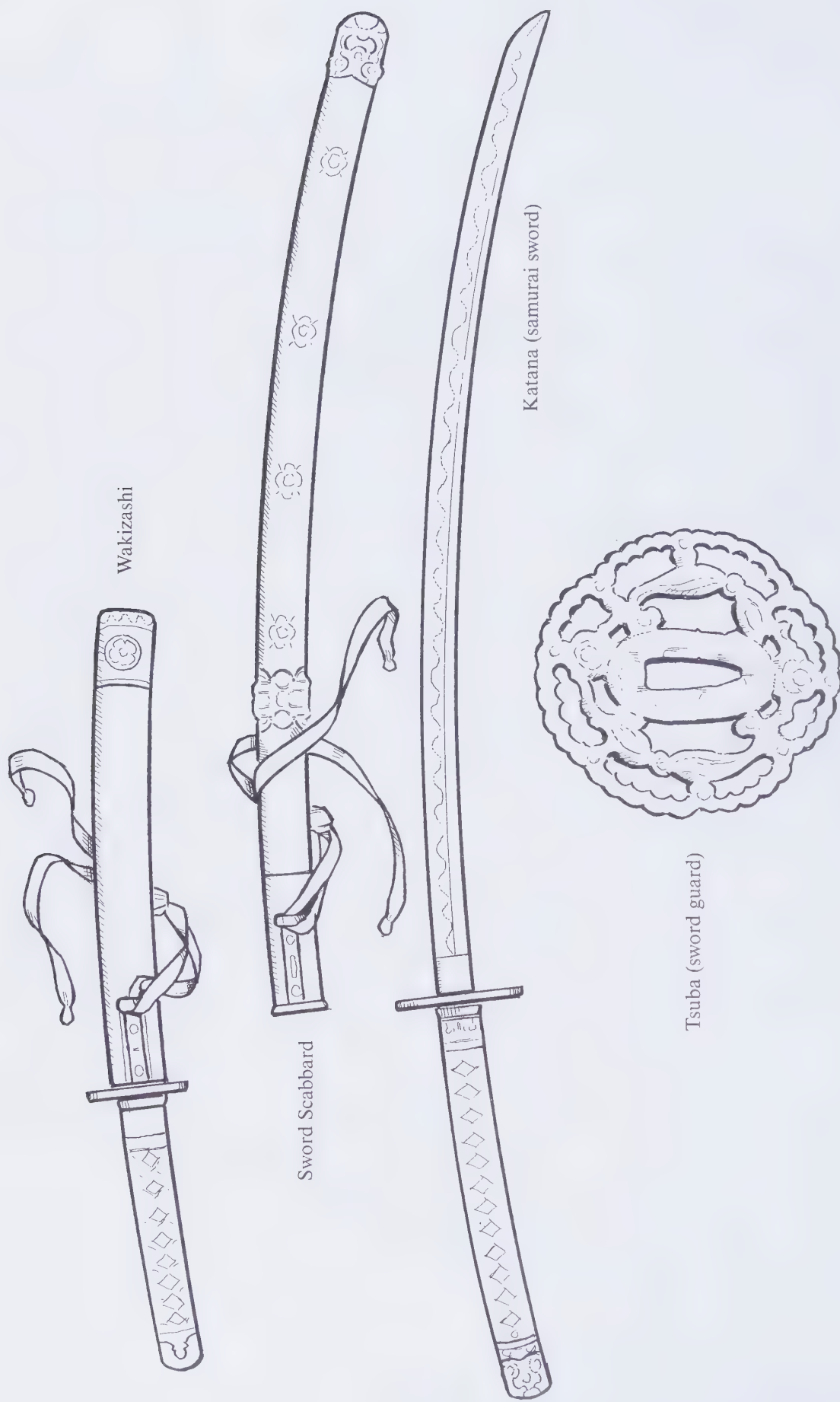
### 18. Enlisting Soldiers (fifteenth century)

A representative of a daimyo's army enlists recruits. Three individuals would emerge from the Warring States Period to become great heroes of Japan—Oda Nobunaga, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, and Tokugawa Ieyasu.









## 20. Parts of the Samurai Sword

The *katana*, a curved sword, was never worn without its companion, the *wakizashi*, a shorter weapon with a broader blade. The *wakizashi* was for suicide. These two swords were often named, and were the "soul" of warriorship. Also shown is the *tsuba*, the sword guard. It balanced the sword and prevented the hand from sliding down the blade.





### 21. Battle of Nagashino (1575)

The Battle of Nagashino is often cited as a turning point in Japanese warfare. Although the Portuguese introduced firearms to Japan in 1543, Oda Nobunaga was one of the

first samurai leaders to employ them on a large scale. His tactics and firearms defeat the cavalry. Oda united Japan for a short time.



## 22. Samurai Invade Korea (1592)

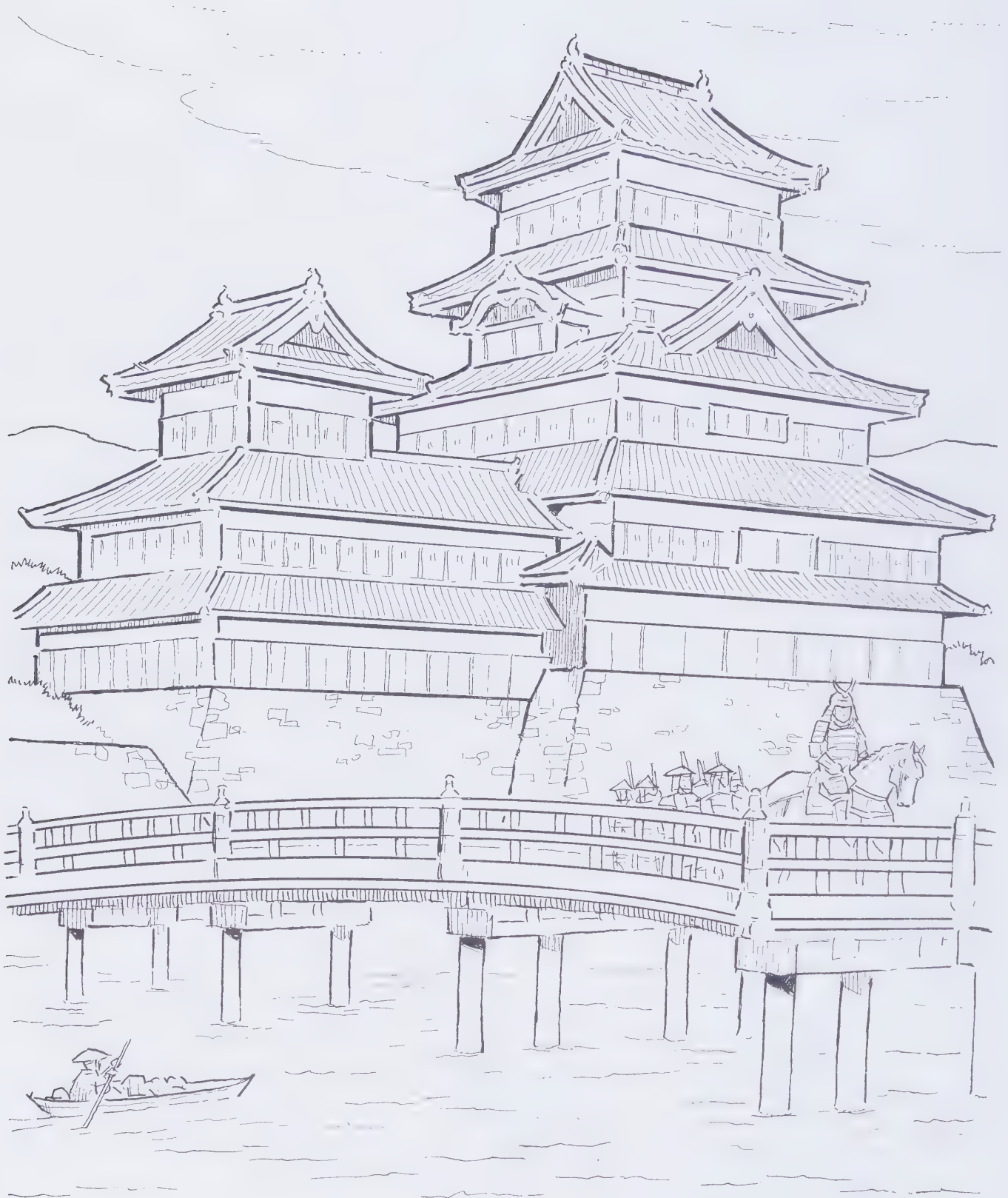
Kato Kiyomasa's army overwhelms the Koreans. This is the only time in history that the samurai invaded another country.





**23. Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Samurai Leader (1536–98)**

Toyotomi ended the Age of War and reunited Japan after Oda Nobunaga's time.  
He rose from being Oda's sandal-bearer to leader of tens of thousands.



#### 24. Samurai Castle (1597)

Matsumoto Castle is the oldest samurai castle. The castle served as fortress, residence, garrison, and commercial center. It was built of wood over a straw base.



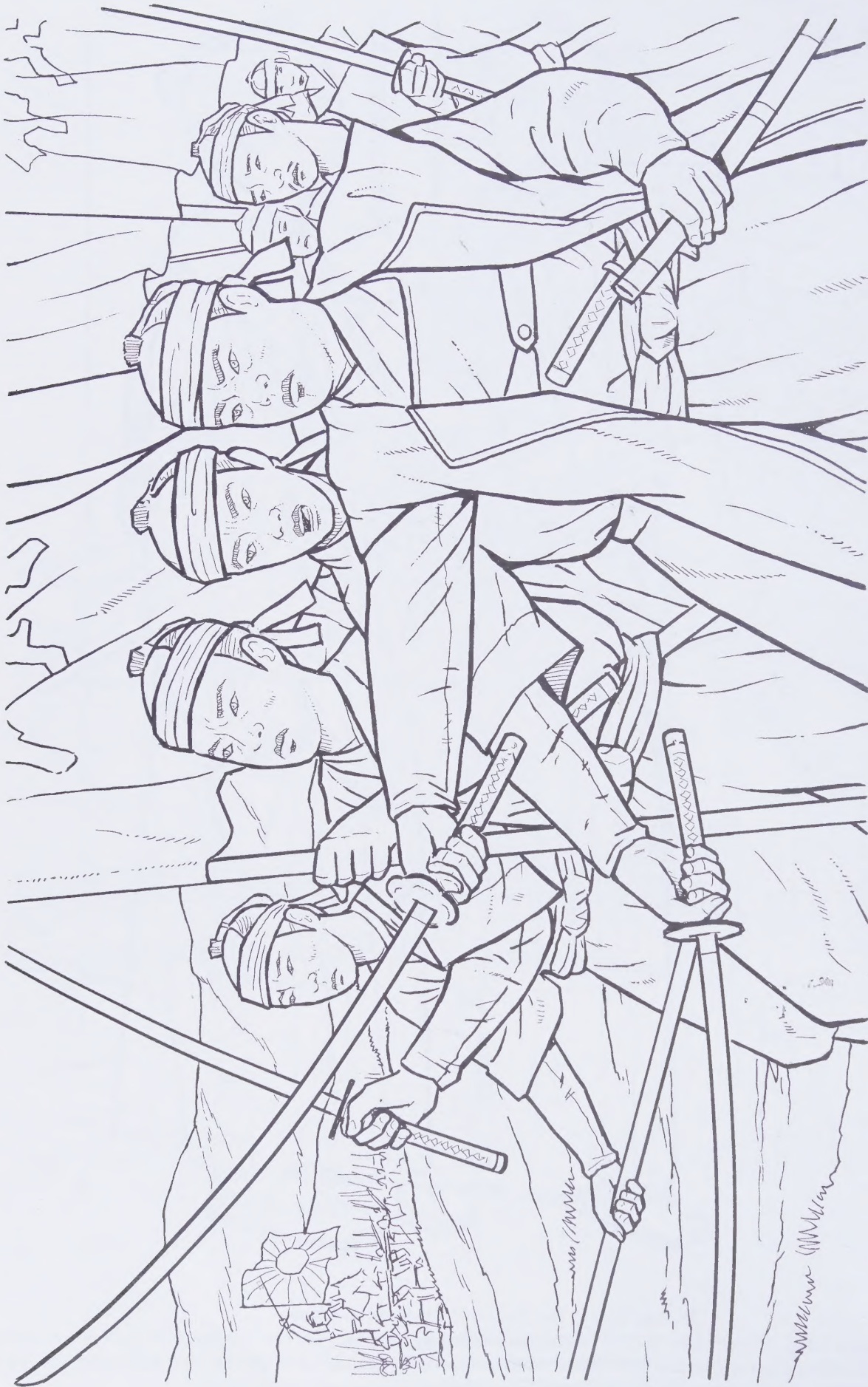


### 29. Edo Period, the Decline of the Samurai Clans

The Tokugawa were being pressured by internal forces to overturn their rule. The only way that the Tokugawa could preserve some control was to return some of their power to

the Emperor. In 1868, the Tokugawa stepped down, returning power to the Emperor Meiji, beginning the Meiji Reformation.





### 30. End of the Samurai

Emperor Meiji disbanded the samurai. They were stripped of the official badge of office, the wearing of the two swords. This gave rise to the last battle — the Satsuma

Rebellion in 1877. The Satsuma refused to obey and fought the government to the last samurai. The film, *The Last Samurai*, is loosely based on this rebellion.





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